

REMARKS

In the above identified Office Action the drawings have been objected to because of the failure to show reference number F1 in the drawings in Figure 4. Applicant has corrected Figure 4 so that it now shows F1. Further, drawings have been objected to because the specification specifies that the hole 10 is larger than holes 11, 12 and 13. Applicant notes that Figure 2 does show that the injection hole 10 is larger than the diameters of the other injection holes 11, 12 and 13, as stated on page 10, line 26. It is this embodiment which features an injection hole 10 larger than the other injection holes. The other embodiments do not have this feature and, thus, need not show it. As a result applicant believes that correction is not required, and that the drawings as filed are correct.

Claims 3-4, 7-8 and 13 have been rejected as indefinite. These claims have been amended to remove the indefiniteness and to clarify that each of the angles is 90 degrees. Claim 13 has been viewed to be confusing. Applicant has amended claim 13 to reflect that the longitudinal direction is measured along the hose.

Claims 1, 9, 12 and 13 have been rejected as anticipated by Masaru in view of JP 49-37403. Applicant notes that a rejection under Section 102(b) for anticipation can be only in view of one reference and not in view of two. Applicant, accordingly, will interpret the rejection to be under U.S.C. Section 103 and responds as such.

Claim 11 has been rejected under 35 Section U.S.C 103(a) as unpatentable over Masaru in view of JP 49-37403 and Shinzo, whereas claims 2-4 have been rejected as unpatentable over Masaru in view of JP 49-37403, Shinzo and Folts et al. Claims 5-8 and 10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as unpatentable over Masaru in view of JP 49-37403, Shinzo, Folts et al and Iida et al.

Masaru (US 4687011) teaches a bent snake wire (11) which causes a force to constantly push a nozzle (6) against an inner wall of a drain pipe (46a). The nozzle (6) is then moved in a spiral manner in

a drain pipe (4) by turning a high pressure hose (6) and a draw-out operation (see Figs. 4-5). In Masaru, therefore, the bent snake wire (11) is necessary to move the nozzle (6) in a spiral manner in the drain pipe (4).

JP 49-37403 discloses a method of washing pipe in which a nozzle (16) is provided at a leading end of a high pressure hose (1, 2), a universal guide (18) is linked to a leading end of the nozzle (16), high pressure water is jetted obliquely rearward from a plurality of injection holes (15) opened in the nozzle (16), a propulsion force is generated in the nozzle (16) by that jetting force. The high pressure hose (1, 2) is fed into a drain pipe (14) while causing the high pressure hose (1, 2) to turn, and the interior of the pipe (14) is washed by the high pressure water jetted from the nozzle (16).

However, JP 49-37403 fails to disclose a structure that causes a force to constantly push the nozzle (16) against the interior of the pipe (14) while causing the high pressure hose (1, 2) to turn, the nozzle (16) moves while just turning near the center of the drain pipe (14). The nozzle (16) cannot move in a spiral manner along the inner wall of the drain pipe (14).

Therefore, even if setting an attachment angle α of the snake wire (11) to zero degrees in Masaru, and employing a universal guide (18), that is linked to a leading end of the nozzle (16) directly as disclosed in the reference JP 49-37403, such a structure cannot cause a force to constantly push the nozzle against the inner wall of the drain pipe. Accordingly, if high pressure washing water is injected from the plurality of injection holes of the nozzle and high pressure hose is fed into a drain pipe while causing the high pressure hose to turn, the nozzle moves while just turning near the center of the drain pipe, and the nozzle cannot move in a spiral manner along with the inner wall of the drain pipe.

In the instant invention, as now claimed, a force to constantly push a nozzle against an inner wall of a drain pipe is generated by a pressure difference between a jet pressure of high pressure water injected from a specific injection hole toward the inner wall of the drain pipe, and

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the resultant pressure of jet pressures of high-pressure water injected from the other injection holes toward the inner wall of the drain pipe.

In the claims, diameters and angles of the specific injection hole and the other injection holes are recited so that the above-mentioned pressure difference can be generated.

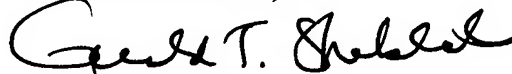
Since the combination of Masaru and the Japanese reference do not teach a key element of the claims, as set forth above, and the secondary references of Shinzo, Folts et al, and Iida et al do not supply this deficiency, applicant believes the claims to now be allowable.

Applicant hereby requests reconsideration and re-examination thereof.

With the above amendments and remarks, applicant believes this application is considered ready for allowance and Applicant earnestly solicits an early notice of same. Should the Examiner be of the opinion that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of the subject application he is respectfully requested to call the undersigned at the below listed number.

Respectfully submitted,

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